

Message Text

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ACTION AGR-08

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DEPT PASS BELL/HUME AGRICULTURE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR

SUBJ: DUTCH PORTS CAPABILITY TRANSSHIP GRAINS TO USSR

1. OUT OF TWO ELEVATOR FACILITIES IN ROTTERDAM THE LARGEST (GEM) HAS INDICATED NO INTEREST IN HANDLING GRAINS DESTINED USSR. EUROPORT SILO (BUNGE) HAS CONCLUDED FORMAL CONTRACT TRANSSHIP 450,000 TONS TOTAL (WHEAT, BARLEY AND CORN) DURING JAN THRU APR '76. CONTRACT PROVIDES COORDINATION OF SCHEDULE BETWEEN BUNGE'S OWN AND REGULAR CUSTOMERS SHIPPING AND USSR INCOMING SHIPMENTS AND POSITIONING OF USSR FLAG 3,000-12,000-TON COASTALS. COORDINATION BEING DONE THRU BUNGE NY HEADQUARTERS. CONTRACT ALSO PROVIDES UP TO 150,000-TON ARRIVALS ROTTERDAM IN ANY SIX WEEK PERIOD. EUROPORT SILO CAN EFFECTIVELY DISCHARGE 15,000 AND UP TO 20,000 TONS HEAVY GRAIN PER DAY USING TWO SHIFTS. THUS FAR DISCHARGE AND RELOADING ON COASTALS HAS GONE EXTREMELY SMOOTHLY. EUROPORT SILO 1975 THRUPUT OF 2.8 MILLION TONS WAS MOSTLY BUNGE OWN ACCOUNT. SILO HANDLES ONLY GRAINS AND PELLETIZED COMMODITIES.

2. IGM FACILITIES (JOINTLY OWNED BY AMSTERDAM MUNICIPALITY AND CARGILL) IN AMSTERDAM HAVE SO FAR DISCHRGD ONE SHIPMENT EACH WHEAT AND CORN TOTALING 100,00 TONS. ANOTHER SHIP EXPECTD THIS WEEKEND. UNDER PRESENT INFORAML ARRANGEMENTS IGMA WILL HANDLE TOTAL 200,000 TONS DURING JANUARY. USSR

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SHIPPING/TRANSPORTATION AGENCY (SOVFRACHT) PRESIDENT NI ZVEV,

ACCOMPANIED BY LEONID B SCHEVBAKOR, VICE PRESIDENT, EXPORTKLEB AND BALDIMIR KOUKINE, DIRECT ATLANTIC DEPT SOVFRACHT VISIT IGMA JAN 29 TO EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES REACHING FORMAL CONTRACT HANDLE ADDITIONAL BUT YET UNSPECIFIED QUANTITIES WHEAT, CORN AND BARLEY DURING FEB THRU APR '76. IGMA WILLING AND WANT CONTRACT FOR UP TO 500,000 TONS WITH ABOUT 100-125,000 TONS OF COORDINATED AND GUARENTEED SHIPMENTS DURING ABOVE NOTED PERIOD. IGMA OFFICIAL S GAVE IMPRESSION THEY NOT WILLING CONTINUE PRESENT INFORMAL/AD HOC ARRANGEMENT NOTED ABOVE. USSR REPOS REPORTEDLY AT THIS STAGE NOT PLANNING SCHEDULE TRANSHIPMENTS THRU DUTCH PORTS BEYOND APRIL. REASON: COASTALS WOULD BE REQUIRED TRANSPORT GOOD WITHIN USSR WATERS AFTER THAWING OF DOMESTIC WATERS IN SPRING 76. IGMA EFFECTIVE DAILY DISCHARGE CAPACITY (TWO SHIFTS) 22,000 TONS BUT CAN UP UP TO MAXIMUM 25,000 TONS AND CAN HANDLE BETWEEN 1.0 TO 1.5 MILLION TONS A YEAR IN ADDITION TO CURRENT 2.5 TO 3.0 MILLION ANNUAL THRUPORT. ADDITIONAL QUANTITY, IF OFFERED, WOULD RELIEVE IGMA'S SLACKTIME. THUS FAR USSR FLAG COASTALS PRESENTING AMSTERDAM HAVE RANGED 4-5,000 TONS. IGMA FACILITIES CAN, DEPENDING ON SHIPS CONFIGURATION RECEIVE UP TO 90,000 TONS SIZE SHIP OR THOSE UP TO 45 FOOT DRAFTS. THERE WAS NO PORT CONGESTION AT IGMA DURING 1975 AND NOEN SO FAR THIS YEAR. ROTTERDAM, HOWEVER, HAD SEVERE CONGESTION AT LEAST TWICE SINCE SEPT 75. DELAYS LASTED 7 TO 10 DAYS.

3. SO FAR USSR COASTALS HAVE DESTINED FROM HOLLAND FOR ONE OF THREE USSR BALTIC PORTS: VENTSPILS, PAVILOSTA OR LIEPAJA.

4. REQUEST COMMERCIALY PROTECT ENTIRE CONTENT THIS MESSAGE.

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